



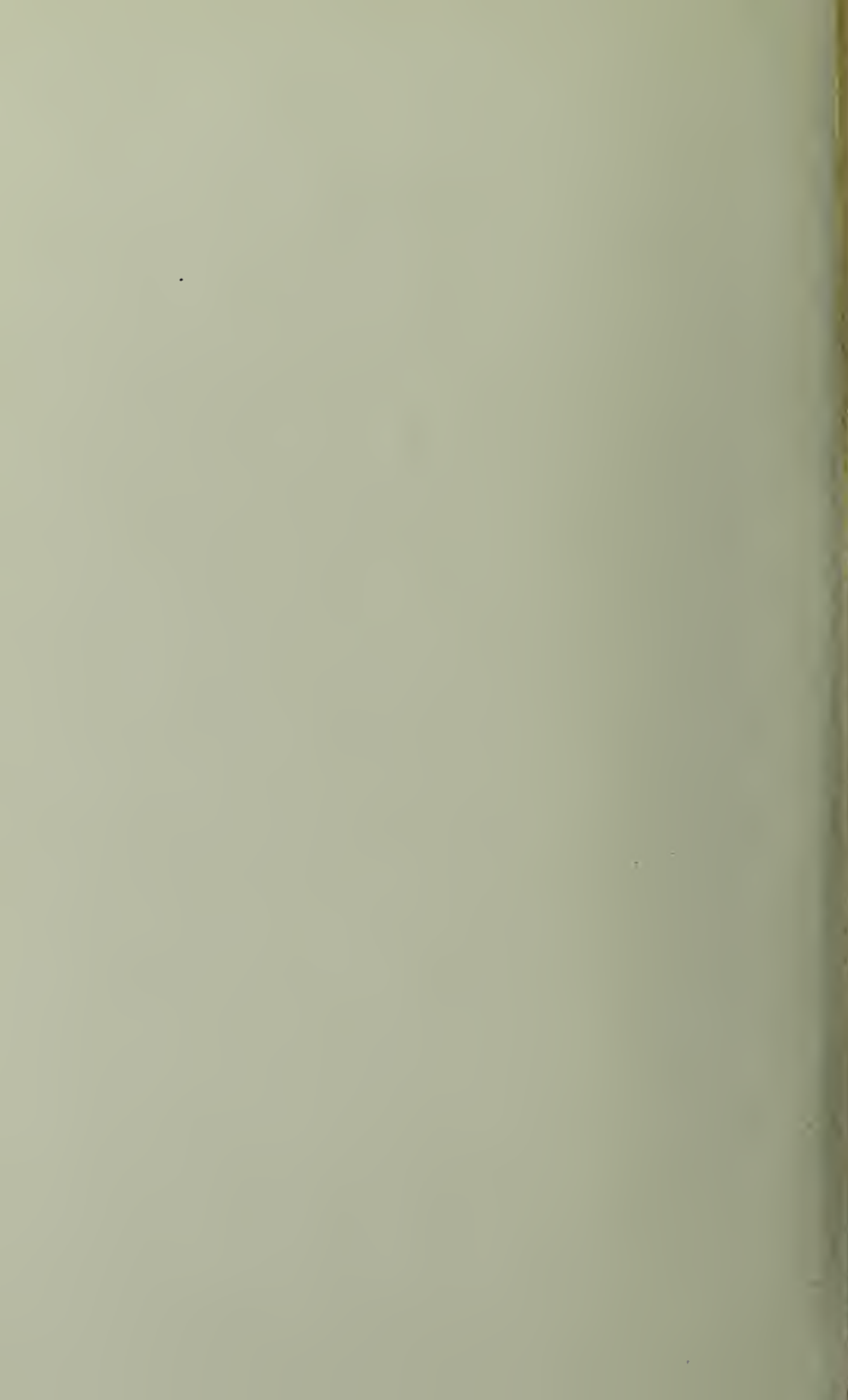
BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

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ANNUAL  
**REPORT**  
OF  
Medical Officer of Health  
FOR  
1956

DEPT. OF HYGIENE

J. O. MURRAY, M.D., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health





BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

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ANNUAL

# REPORT

OF

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

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J. O. MURRAY, M.D., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health



**Members of the Chatham Council**  
**as at 31st December, 1956**

THE MAYOR (Alderman G. W. Rhodes, J.P.)

THE DEPUTY MAYOR (Alderman F. B. Hodges)

Alderman F. H. Lawrence, O.B.E.

Alderman A. S. Price, J.P.

Alderman F. B. Semple, B.Sc.

Alderman A. G. C. Brown.

Councillor G. W. Pagett, M.A., C.C.

Councillor D. D. Barker, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Councillor T. T. Myles.

Councillor J. S. Thomas.

Councillor R. A. Warner.

Councillor Mrs. M. T. Cox.

Councillor J. C. Buck.

Councillor R. L. W. Parsons.

Councillor D. Walter.

Councillor T. H. Hill.

Councillor K. W. Osborne.

Councillor C. E. Harvey.

Councillor O. P. Baker.

Councillor D. G. Atkinson.

Councillor F. Bannister.

Councillor Mrs. B. Grieveson, J.P.

Councillor Mrs. K. Williams.

Councillor J. Young.

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**Public Health Committee**

This consists of :

CHAIRMAN : Alderman G. W. Rhodes, J.P.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Councillor O. P. Baker.

The Deputy Mayor (Alderman Hodges), Aldermen Semple and Brown, Councillors Pagett, Myles, Mrs. Cox, Osborne, Harvey, Atkinson, Mrs. Williams and Young.

## Public Health Officers

### *Medical Officer of Health :*

(Combined appointment with City of Rochester)

J. O. Murray, M.D., D.P.H.

### *Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Medical Officer Kent County Council :*

(Combined appointment with City of Rochester)

R. G. Brennen, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., C.P.H., D.P.H.

### *Chief Public Health Inspector :*

Thomas Howard (a) (b)

### *Senior District Public Health Inspector :*

A. E. South (a) (b)

### *District Public Health Inspectors :*

B. Lewis (a) (b)

F. C. Gaffney (a) (b)

### *Student Public Health Inspector :*

J. E. Gibson (appointed 23.7.56).

### *Clerks :*

Miss J. F. Coffey (resigned 9.6.56).

O. Thomas

Mrs. I. D. Larraman (appointed 2.7.56).

Miss C. E. Watts

(a) Public Health Inspector's Certificate.

(b) Meat Inspector's Certificate.

# Borough of Chatham

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
"ELM HOUSE",  
15 NEW ROAD AVENUE,  
CHATHAM.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Chatham.*

YOUR WORSHIP, MESDAMES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for 1956.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY

The mortality among infants under 1 year of age has fallen in fifty years from 137 to an average of 28 in the past five years. The comparative figure for England and Wales as a whole was 23.8.

This great saving in infant lives is associated with a large reduction in deaths from all causes, except those due to Prematurity and Congenital Deformity, the causes of which are obscure, usually resulting in death during the first few weeks of life.

Between the period 1930-34 to 1952-56 deaths from causes other than *Prematurity and Congenital Deformity* have decreased from 31 to 14 per 1,000 live and still births, whereas the latter two causes had only fallen from 21 to 14 and have displaced infectious diseases as the major causes of infant deaths. The causes of premature deaths in infants have not been fully elucidated but conditions affecting the mother, such as toxæmias of pregnancy, multiple pregnancy, kidney and heart disease, diabetes, malnutrition and acute infectious disease are factors which are sometimes associated with prematurity. In some cases there is no apparent cause. Heredity as a cause of congenital malformation is a possibility and increased intrauterine pressure can result in some types of deformity.

Another factor of some concern is the large number of still births which in the past five years have exceeded the number of infant deaths. This does not mean that there are more still births; in fact the proportion to the total births is less. The reason for the excess of still births is the greater decrease in infant deaths in the past thirty years from 58 to 28 per 1,000 live and still births, while the still birth rate has only fallen from 36 to 24 in the same period. Still births only became registrable in 1927 so that comparative figures for the earlier part of the century are not available.

There is one further feature in the present day picture; it is that about three-quarters of the infant loss is due to still births and deaths in the first week of life.

To sum up, during the past five years (1952-56), in every 1,000 births approximately 24 were still births and within one year from birth 14 died from Prematurity or Congenital Malformation, 2 from infectious disease and 12 from other causes, giving a total loss of 52 babies per 1,000 live and still births as compared with 94 in the period 1930-34.

Any further improvement in the present position will depend very largely on the future ascertainment of the causes of still birth, prematurity and congenital malformation and the application of the appropriate remedies.

### NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

A total of 47 cases of Food Poisoning was notified, which included 35 notifications from a local institution where there was an outbreak. In this outbreak the majority of the cases were of a mild type.

### CANCER

The average cancer death rate over a period of five years has risen from 16 (1935-39) to 17 (1952-56) per 10,000 persons living. During the past five years there has been an annual average of 85 cancer deaths which is 17 per cent of deaths from all causes. Of the 85 deaths, 17 were due to lung cancer and 10 to cancer of the stomach.

### TUBERCULOSIS

Compulsory notification of tuberculosis was introduced in 1912. The number of infected persons was not really known at this time but records which go back to 1894 indicate that during that year 25 out of every 10,000 living died from Tuberculosis. During the period 1912-16, an average of 26 persons were infected and 17 died each year out of every 10,000 living.

With the advent of improved hygiene, housing and better social conditions generally, the ravages of this disease gradually became less and less and just prior to the last war the average annual infections had fallen to 13 and the death rate to 7 per 10,000 of the population.

The outbreak of war in 1939, with its consequent strains and privations, resulted in a set back of the previous decline. The annual notification rate rose from 13 to 21 and the death rate from 7 to 10 per 10,000 persons during the seven years 1940-46.

Fortunately, soon after the conclusion of hostilities new potent drugs became available and surgical methods of treatment began to be used more extensively with quite startling curative results. In the ensuing seven years the death rate fell from 10 to 5 per annum



per 10,000 living in spite of the fact that the number of new infections showed comparatively little decrease (from 21 to 19). This slight decrease in notified disease, as compared with the large fall in the death rate, was associated with better methods of diagnosis including mass radiography, the latter in particular revealing symptomless and unsuspected disease. It cannot be too strongly stated or too often repeated that far too many fail to take advantage of this means of early diagnosis which carries with it an assurance of cure. This is what mass radiography means to the individual. For the community it ensures that the sources of infection will no longer remain a hidden and unsuspected danger.

The improvement in diagnostic methods and the ability of modern drugs to cure has resulted in a large increase in the number of registered patients. The number per 10,000 of the population has risen from an average of 36 in the period 1935-39 to an average of 82 between 1952-56.

This is not due to an increase in the notification rate but to the fact that many more patients are being cured and remain on the register for three to five years as observation cases before being finally written off.

Tuberculosis is on the way out but its final extermination will largely depend on the use of mass radiography by the public and the general acceptance of early treatment and recognised methods of prevention where necessary.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND ITS ABATEMENT

Three gauges for measuring atmospheric pollution were provided jointly by Rochester and Chatham Councils in 1951. The records have shown a steady deterioration in the condition of the air. The total solids deposited have risen from an average of 178 in 1952 to 271 tons per square mile in 1956. In heavy industrialized districts the corresponding figure is about 500 tons. Anything over 250 tons is bad.

The reasons for this serious increase in air pollution is primarily due to the consumption of more fuel and is associated with the erection of many new houses, a great increase in motor traffic and to a slight increase in industrial undertakings. In 1956 there were 1,203 more houses than in 1951. The number of motor vehicles crossing Rochester Bridge in one August week in 1951 was 29,918; in 1954 the number was 70,336 and by 1956 this increased by 20 per cent to 84,405.

The main sources of local pollution are domestic coal fires, industrial furnaces and processes, petrol and diesel engine exhausts, railways and ships.

The chief dangers to health arise from air pollution by smoke and sulphur gases.

Smoke consists of minute particles of carbon and liquid tarry matter and is the result of incomplete combustion of coal and motor fuels. More than half the smoke pollution comes from domestic fires burning coal which produces 2.7 per cent of its weight as smoke or approximately  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. from every hundredweight of coal burnt. This is more than double the amount produced in coal burning industrial furnaces, viz. 1.1 per cent. On the other hand industrial coal burning furnaces produce 1.8 per cent of sulphur gases as compared with 1.2 per cent in household coal fires.

The smoke and sulphur gases hang in the air for long periods and only about one quarter of the amount issued from coal fires reaches the recording gauges and this is an important point in interpreting the results of the gauge analysis.

In view of the larger contribution of smoke pollution from the domestic consumption of coal its use must, eventually, cease entirely if the pollution of the air is to be eliminated effectually. It is strange that complaints are never received on this major health hazard from domestic smoke.

The remedy may be provided by the provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956. This Act will enable the Council to exercise stricter control over offending industrial furnaces and processes and it also authorizes the Council to establish smokeless zones with the object of eventually making the whole area smokeless. This will take time but is essential to the attainment of clean air.

Towards the end of the year the Council considered the possibility of promoting Smoke Control Areas. The power to establish such areas may be exercised by individual boroughs or by a combination of two or more local authorities. As air pollution knows no boundaries, drifting from town to town and district to district with the vagaries of wind and atmospheric conditions, there are obvious advantages in a joint plan in the Medway Towns. This would ensure that eventually—probably in 15-20 years—the local air pollution could be reduced to a minimum, resulting in a great improvement in the health of the community, the elimination of much respiratory disease and probably in a lower incidence of lung cancer.

Obviously, the Local Authority must take the lead in any such proposals, but success must finally depend on the realization by the public of the dangers to their own health of air pollution and on their good will and co-operation. Before any definite action is taken the inhabitants in any proposed smokeless zone will be informed of all the circumstances, facts and advantages.

A preliminary investigation is being made in two areas—one on the boundary of Rochester and Chatham, the other on the boundary of Chatham and Gillingham. The object is to ascertain all the implications including the cost of establishing smokeless zones. Where a Smoke Control Order has come into operation and notices have been served by the local authority, at least seven-tenths of the expenditure incurred by the owner or the occupier in carrying out the necessary adaptations to their heating arrangements pursuant

to such notices are repaid by the local authority. This repayment is contingent on the work being approved and carried out to the satisfaction of the Council and completed within a certain defined but reasonable time limit. In Council owned houses the cost is borne by the local authority. In all cases of houses built before July 1956 part of the cost to the Council is reimbursed by the Central Government.

The cost of clearing the air of smoke from domestic coal fires will be offset not only with great benefits to health but by a distinct saving in fuel some of which under present conditions goes up the chimney unburnt to be discharged into the air as smoke, sulphur gases and grit.

#### HOUSING AND SLUM CLEARANCE

Three hundred and ninety-six houses were constructed during 1956, of which 117 were erected by the Council. The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year, according to the rate books, was 14,276.

Two clearance areas were represented, involving 14 houses. In addition, 37 demolition orders and 12 closing orders were made on individual houses; two closing orders were made in respect of parts of dwelling houses, making a total of 65 houses.

#### CONCLUSION

I would like to express to all members of the staff, and to my colleagues in other departments, my appreciation of the valuable assistance they have given me during the year, and to thank the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their most helpful support and consideration.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. O. MURRAY,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

**STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA**

Area (in acres) ... ..	4,371
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (Including forces stationed in the area) ... ..	49,900
Number of inhabited houses on the Rate Books:—	
Dwelling houses ... ..	13,721
Shops with living accommodation ... ..	459
Licensed premises, hotels, etc., with living accom- modation ... ..	96
Rateable Value ... ..	£628,335
Product of penny rate (1955-1956) ... ..	£1,338

**Extracts from Vital Statistics****Total Births (Live and Still)**

		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>Live Births,</b>	Legitimate ... ..	380	387	
	Illegitimate ... ..	21	23	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
		401	410	811
<b>Still Births,</b>	Legitimate ... ..	7	13	
	Illegitimate ... ..	2	2	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
		9	15	24
				<hr/>
				835

**Birth Rate**

Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population (crude rate) ... ..	16.25
Corrected by comparability factor (0.97) ... ..	15.76
Still birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population	0.48

**Total Deaths**

All causes at all ages ... ..	508
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**Death Rate**

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (crude rate) ... ..	10.18
Corrected by comparability factor (1.07) ... ..	10.89

**Infant Mortality Rate**

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age ... ..	23
All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	28.36

**Neo-Natal Mortality Rate**

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age ... ..	14
Death rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	17.26

The following table shows the average Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates for five yearly periods from 1910-1954, and rates for the years 1955 and 1956 (crude):—

Period	Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	Infant Mortality per 1,000 births
1910 to 1914 ... ..	25.1	13.4	105
1915 to 1919 ... ..	22	18	97
1920 to 1924 ... ..	22.1	12.3	73
1925 to 1929 ... ..	19.53	12.96	73.2
1930 to 1934 ... ..	16.86	12.1	58
1935 to 1939 ... ..	16.01	12.02	53.48
1940 to 1944 ... ..	20.29	14.64	65.57
1945 to 1949 ... ..	22.55	14.97	36.24
1950 to 1954 ... ..	16.04	10.61	31.39
1955 ... ..	17.23	8.89	23.5
1956 ... ..	16.25	10.18	28.36

The following table shows the percentage of deaths occurring at different age groups :—

Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over
4.6	.6	.4	1.0	5.6	17.9	69.9

## Infantile Mortality

The following table shows the causes of infantile deaths in relation to age.

Disease	(a) Under 12 hrs.	(b) 13-24 hours	(c) 2-7 days	(d) 8-28 days	(e) Over 28 days	(f) Total
1. Congenital Malformation ...	1	1	—	—	1	3
2. Birth Injury ...	1	—	1	—	—	2
3. Prematurity ...	4	3	—	—	—	7
4. Gastro Enteritis ...	—	—	—	1	1	2
5. Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
6. Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	2	2
7. Other Causes ...	1	—	2	—	3	6
Total ...	7	4	3	1	8	23

The following table shows the average increases in population in five yearly periods since 1922:—

Period	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Natural increase per 1,000 Population
1922-1926	20.72	12.2	8.52
1927-1931	18.72	13.02	5.7
1932-1936	15.92	11.68	4.24
1937-1941	17.37	13.42	3.95
1942-1946	21.59	13.84	7.75
1947-1951	19.85	12.1	7.75
1952-1956	16.35	9.88	6.47



TOTAL DEATHS, 1956

	Chatham M.B.		
	Causes of Death	M.	F.
	All Causes ... ..	281	227
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	6	3
2.	Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—
4.	Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
5.	Whooping cough ... ..	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
8.	Measles ... ..	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	2	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	5	7
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	19	3
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	8
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	8
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	22	20
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ... ..	—	—
16.	Diabetes ... ..	1	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	32	31
18.	Coronary disease, angina ... ..	38	23
19.	Hypertension with heart disease...	4	9
20.	Other heart disease ... ..	46	49
21.	Other circulatory disease ... ..	8	7
22.	Influenza ... ..	1	—
23.	Pneumonia ... ..	12	12
24.	Bronchitis ... ..	23	10
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	4	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum...	7	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	2	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	2	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations ... ..	3	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	21	21
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	9	—
34.	All other accidents ... ..	7	8
35.	Suicide ... ..	5	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—

## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

#### Laboratory Facilities

The bacteriological examination of throat swabs, sputum, blood, milk, water or other suspected material are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Preston Hall, British Legion Village, Maidstone, under the direction of the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health.

Chemical examinations are carried out by the County Analyst, under the administration of the Kent County Council.

#### Clinics and Treatment Centres

Five Maternity and Child Welfare Centres are provided by the Kent County Council and the days and times of the various clinic sessions are as follows:—

ELM HOUSE, 15 NEW ROAD AVENUE. Tel. No. Chatham 3663.  
Monday ... Ante-Natal ... 2 p.m.—4 p.m.  
Tuesday ... Child Welfare ... 2 p.m.—4 p.m.  
Wednesday ... Ante-Natal ... 2 p.m.—4 p.m.  
Friday ... Child Welfare ... 2 p.m.—4 p.m.

WHITE ROAD. Tel. No. Chatham 45767.  
Monday ... Child Welfare ... 2 p.m.—4 p.m.  
Tuesday (2nd and 4th) ... Ante-Natal ... 9 a.m.—11 a.m.  
Thursday ... Child Welfare ... 2 p.m.—4 p.m.

KINGS ROAD. Tel. No. Chatham 3663, extension 10.  
Tuesday (1st, 3rd, 5th) ... Ante-Natal ... 9.30 a.m.—11.30 a.m.  
Tuesday ... Child Welfare ... 2 p.m.—4 p.m.

WALDESLADE CLINIC  
Friday (1st, 3rd and 5th) Child Welfare ... 2 p.m.—4 p.m.

WAYFIELD CLINIC. Tel. No. 3487.  
Monday ... Child Welfare ... 2 p.m.—4 p.m.  
Wednesday ... Ante-Natal ... 9 a.m.—11 a.m.  
Thursday ... Child Welfare ... 2 p.m.—4 p.m.

Relaxation and Exercise Classes are held at all Ante-Natal Clinics.

Diphtheria Immunisation and vaccination can be arranged by appointment at all Child Welfare Clinics.

#### SCHOOL MEDICAL MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS.

These clinics are provided as follows:—

ELM HOUSE  
Monday—9.30 a.m., Doctor. 9.30 a.m.—10.30 a.m. Nurse.  
Wednesday } ... 9.30 a.m.—10.30 a.m. Nurse.  
Friday }

WAYFIELD CLINIC  
Saturday—9.30 a.m.—12 noon, Doctor.



DENTAL CLINIC, "ELMSLEIGH", MAIDSTONE ROAD, CHATHAM.  
T 1. No. Chatham 2098. (By appointment.)

#### SCABIES CLINIC.

St. William's Hospital, Rochester ... .. Wednesdays p.m.  
(Arrangements to be made through the Public Health Department, Chatham. Tel. No. Chatham 3663/4).

CHEST CLINIC, 13 NEW ROAD, ROCHESTER. Tel. No. Chatham 2182.

Mondays, p.m.	...	...	...	...	by appointment
Tuesdays, p.m.	...	...	...	...	by appointment
Thursdays, a.m. (new cases)	...	...	...	...	by appointment
Fridays, a.m.	...	...	...	...	by appointment

TREATMENT CENTRE FOR VENEREAL DISEASES, 36 NEW ROAD, ROCHESTER. Tel. No. Chatham 3343.

Mondays	...	...	...	...	1.30 p.m.—4.30 p.m.
Thursdays	...	...	...	...	10.00 a.m.—1.00 p.m.

**Hospitals in Chatham and Rochester are under the administration of the Medway and Gravesend Hospital Management Committee, Group Secretary —T. Rhodes, Esq., 20 Star Hill, Rochester, Tel. No. Chat. 4688.**

#### *Cases*

Saint Bartholomew's Hospital, New Road, Rochester. Tel. No. Chat. 4278 and 4004.	General, Medical, Surgical and Orthopaedic.
All Saints' Hospital, Magpie Hall Road, Chatham. Tel. No. Chat. 3686.	General, Medical, Surgical, Maternity, Gynaecology, Tuberculosis, Infectious Diseases and Mental.
St. William's Hospital, St. William's Way, Rochester. Tel. No. Chat. 3243.	Infectious Diseases, post operative and radio-therapy.

**Ambulance Service, Star Mill Lane, Chatham. Tel. No. Chat. 58201.**

#### **Domestic Help Service**

Domestic help is provided for households where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mental defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age. The service provided is limited to the performance of essential domestic help.

This is one of the services for which a charge has to be made. When domestic help is provided, the head of the family concerned is asked to complete an assessment form giving details of income and the charges to be met from that income and a preliminary estimate of the assessment that will need to be paid can, if desired, be given by the district officer.

### **Family Help Service**

This service is restricted to families of two or more children where application has been made to the Children's Committee for the children to be taken into care during the temporary absence of the mother and the service is limited to an initial period of not more than three months.

Information regarding this service can be obtained from the Domestic Help Organiser at Elm House, New Road Avenue, Chatham.

**Night Attendant Service** is now available for old people but is limited to cases where the help required cannot be provided by voluntary agencies. The arrangements include evening service, preparation for sleep, provision of meals, attention to fires and night service. Application for this service should generally be made through the family doctor.

Further information is obtainable from the Domestic Help Organiser at Elm House, New Road Avenue, Chatham.

### **National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951**

#### **Removal to suitable premises of Persons in need of care and attention**

One person was removed to suitable premises under the provisions of the above Acts.

# SECTION C.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(a) Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1956

Diseases	Total Cases Notified	Treated in Hospital
Scarlet Fever ... ..	13	4
Pneumonia (Primary or Influenzal) ... ..	19	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	50	45
Erysipelas ... ..	4	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	2
Measles ... ..	7	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	82	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	4	—
Dysentery ... ..	20	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	47	36
Acute Poliomyelitis (P) ... ..	2	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (NP) ... ..	1	1

(b) Infectious Diseases (Ages and Wards)

Ages	Whooping Cough	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Acute Poliomyelitis (P)	Acute Poliomyelitis (NP)	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Paratyphoid Fever	Dysentery	Food Poisoning
Under 1	7	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	28
1 — 2	16	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	2
3 — 4	25	3	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	2
5 — 10	34	—	8	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	4
11 — 15	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
16 — 20	—	1	—	—	11	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
21 — 25	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
26 — 35	—	—	—	2	13	—	—	—	—	2	1	7
36 — 45	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
46 — 65	—	—	—	7	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
66 up	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	82	7	13	19	50	4	2	1	2	4	20	47
Wards												
St. Mary's	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	10
St. John's	50	2	5	4	1	—	1	—	—	4	11	2
St. Michael's	4	—	3	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	4	—
St. Paul's	13	2	2	3	46	—	—	1	1	—	—	34
Luton ...	11	2	2	10	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Christchurch	3	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	82	7	13	19	50	4	2	1	2	4	20	47

(c) Table Showing Number of Cases of Infectious Diseases, 1931-1956

Year	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Malaria	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Meningococcal Infection	Acute Polymyelitis	Acute Encephalitis	Dysentery	Food Poisoning
1931			58	26	2	6	11	—	1	20	—	1	—	—	—
1932			149	11	16	4	11	—	4	21	6	—	—	—	—
1933			146	25	2	1	10	—	2	29	2	—	—	—	—
1934			114	31	1	2	17	—	2	19	—	—	—	—	—
1935			44	22	2	2	17	—	—	30	—	—	—	—	—
1936			40	25	—	1	21	—	4	20	1	—	—	—	—
1937			160	261	—	9	28	—	3	14	—	4	—	—	—
1938			233	208	4	4	19	—	2	23	—	—	—	—	—
1939			61	86	—	7	10	—	1	19	1	—	—	—	—
1940	79	12	20	13	—	8	14	—	4	22	2	—	—	—	—
1941	413	120	20	4	12	9	4	—	4	12	5	—	—	—	—
1942	417	219	38	8	—	16	7	—	5	32	9	1	—	—	—
1943	412	91	124	16	—	12	18	—	—	44	—	—	—	—	—
1944	201	182	48	12	1	18	16	2	3	29	3	—	—	4	—
1945	446	111	52	9	1	23	16	—	1	34	1	3	1	1	—
1946	568	52	26	2	—	4	16	5	—	27	—	1	—	—	—
1947	189	179	22	7	1	7	11	—	—	20	1	2	—	1	—
1948	723	171	8	—	—	9	15	—	1	24	3	2	1	—	—
1949	34	189	35	—	—	8	8	—	—	19	—	2	—	—	—
1950	567	137	85	—	—	9	20	—	—	28	—	1	—	20	—
1951	1183	396	57	—	—	18	4	—	1	62	—	—	2	46	3
1952	325	253	100	—	2	68	11	—	2	43	2	4	1	1	6
1953	880	205	31	—	—	101	9	1	1	49	1	7	—	33	3
1954	13	174	51	—	—	68	4	—	1	22	1	1	—	152	120
1955	844	173	20	—	—	64	3	—	2	21	2	2 (P)	—	1	8
1956	7	82	13	—	4	50	4	—	2	19	—	2 (P)	—	20	47
												1 (NP)	—		

## Immunisation against Diphtheria

The yearly figures since 1940 are as follows:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Immunised</i>	<i>Boosting Doses</i>
1940	—	—
1941	514	—
1942	2399	—
1943	825	—
1944	576	—
1945	546	—
1946	602	75
1947	426	348
1948	680	163
1949	941	1251
1950	622	235
1951	769	1063
1952	655	472
1953	637	427
1954	636	416
1955	567	374
1956	628	618

The following table shows the number of children who were Immunised against Diphtheria during 1956:—

Year of Birth	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	Total
Primary Inoculations ...	75	345	65	22	17	38	30	10	8	16	2	1	—	—	—	628
Reinforcing Inoculations ...	—	—	—	—	39	238	71	45	63	136	14	8	4	—	—	618

The undermentioned figures show the number of children under the age of 15 years on the 31st December, 1956, who had completed a course of Immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st January, 1942).

Year of Birth	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	Total
Last completed course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1952-1956	74	399	475	593	546	594	420	477	456	572	294	124	97	39	12	5082
1951 or earlier ...	—	—	—	—	—	21	177	264	108	60	258	332	286	398	343	2247

### Vaccination against Small Pox

Year of Birth	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	Before 1942	Total
Primary Vaccination	299	206	6	7	8	4	2	4	7	2	3	1	4	—	—	11	564
Re-Vaccination	—	4	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	18	27

## Food Poisoning

Type of Outbreak	No. of Cases	Identified Agent	Foods Suspected	No. of Deaths
Family Outbreak 2	2	Salmonella Heidelberg	None in particular	—
	8	Undiscovered		
Single Cases 2	1	Salmonella Typhi-Murium	None in particular	—
	1	Salmonella Heidelberg		
Hospital Infection 1	35	Salmonella Heidelberg	None in Particular	5

## Clean Food Campaign

Continued attention was given to maintaining and improving the standard of hygiene in food and food preparing premises throughout the Borough. Lectures were given to various organisations.

## Venereal Disease

The treatment centre for the Medway Area is situated at 36 New Road, Rochester. I am indebted to Dr. C. D. Routh, Director, for the following particulars:—

<i>New Patients—Chatham</i>					<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	5	8	13
Chancroid	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	9	5	14
Non-Venereal	...	...	...	...	45	12	57
					—	—	—
					59	25	84
					—	—	—

Total No. of new patients from all districts served ... 318

Total attendances of Chatham patients ... 923

Total attendances of patients from all districts served 3340



## DISCHARGES (all districts)

### Discharged Cured:—

Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Non-venereal	...	...	...	...	...	...	218

### DEFAULTED BEFORE FINAL TESTS OF CURE

Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

The following table shows the number of cases from Chatham since 1951:—

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Gonorrhoea	10	14	15	9	10	14
Syphilis	11	6	8	10	5	13
Chancroid	—	—	—	—	1	—
Non-Venereal	59	49	45	50	40	57

## Notification of Tuberculosis

### PULMONARY

Total Notifications	...	...	...	...	...	78
By Private Practitioners	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	9
Chest Physician	...	...	...	...	...	36
Transferred from other districts	...	...	...	...	...	28
Reinstated Cases	...	...	...	...	...	4

### NON-PULMONARY

Total Notifications	...	...	...	...	...	4
By Private Practitioners	...	...	...	...	...	—
Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	3
Chest Physician	...	...	...	...	...	1
Transferred from other districts	...	...	...	...	...	—
Reinstated Cases	...	...	...	...	...	—

## Delay in Notification

One person died of Tuberculosis who had not previously been notified as suffering from this disease.



I am indebted to Dr. S. Roy C. Price, Chest Physician, for the following information :—

Particulars of patients from the Chatham Area dealt with at the Chest Clinic, Rochester, during the year 1956.

Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary			
Adults		Children		Adults		Children	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
25	27	1	3	—	4	1	1

No. of patients dealt with who were found to be non-T.B. 785.

*Total Attendances—1,723.*

Number of patients sent to Institutions ... 55

TABLE SHOWING NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1956 :—

Age Group	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
6-15 years ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
16-25 years ...	7	6	—	1	—	—	—	—
26-35 years ...	3	6	—	1	—	—	—	—
36-45 years ...	3	4	—	1	—	2	1	—
46-65 years ...	7	3	—	—	—	2	—	—
66 years up ...	2	1	—	—	—	2	2	—
Totals ...	24	22	1	3	—	6	3	—

Registered cases of Tuberculosis as at 31st December in each year:—

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total	Deaths
1940	130	50	180	31
1941	156	52	208	40
1942	180	63	243	38
1943	199	70	269	40
1944	229	76	305	45
1945	232	81	313	38
1946	245	88	333	37
1947	259	102	361	34
1948	266	56	322	38
1949	291	72	363	30
1950	308	72	380	22
1951	322	69	391	20
1952	352	68	420	25
1953	392	70	462	8
1954	398	59	457	18
1955	410	58	468	6
1956	409	60	469	9

**Average number of Notifications, Deaths and rates in 5 yearly periods from 1935—1954 and the Yearly figures for 1955 and 1956**

Year	Population	Pulmonary Tuberculosis				Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis				Totals			
		Notifications	Notifi. rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>	Deaths	Death rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>	Notifications	Notifi. Rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>	Deaths	Death rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>	Not.	Rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>	Deaths	Death Rate <i>Per 1,000 persons living</i>
1935—1939	44,732	45	1.00	28	.62	72	.27	3	.07	57	1.27	31	.69
1940—1944	35,752	63	1.76	33	.92	12	.34	6	.17	75	2.10	39	1.09
1945—1949	39,932	71	1.78	32	.80	15	.38	4	.10	86	2.15	36	.90
1950—1954	50,090	75	1.50	18	.36	10	.20	1	.02	85	1.70	19	.38
1955	49,380	50	1.01	6	.12	6	.12	—	.00	56	1.13	6	.12
1956	49,900	46	.92	9	.18	4	.08	—	.00	50	1.00	9	.18

## SECTION D.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### Rainfall during 1956.

I am indebted to A. A. Chapman, Esq., A.M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., for the following figures taken at the Luton Pumping Station:—

January	Total depth in inches				4.69
February	"	"	"	"	0.51
March	"	"	"	"	0.56
April	"	"	"	"	1.03
May	"	"	"	"	0.39
June	"	"	"	"	2.28
July	"	"	"	"	4.36
August	"	"	"	"	2.98
September	"	"	"	"	1.82
October	"	"	"	"	1.11
November	"	"	"	"	0.58
December	"	"	"	"	2.41
Total					22.72

#### Water

Supply is by the Medway Water Board and has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity. 36 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination, each of which showed a good result. Chlorination is still carried out.

Premises with internal mains supply 14,251.

19 properties are supplied by means other than mains. In addition, there are 2 standpipes.

#### Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The number of houses connected to the public sewer during the year was :—

New Houses :—

Corporation Property	...	...	...	117
Private	...	...	...	223
Existing Houses	...	...	...	48
Total connected during year				388

# Atmospheric Pollution Observations — Chatham and Rochester

## ALL SAINTS HOSPITAL

Monthly Deposit in Tons Per Square Mile

Month	Rainfall During Month Inches	Mean Rain Fall	Prevailing Wind	Insoluble Deposit	Soluble Deposit	Total Solids	Water Insoluble Matter			Water Soluble Matter			Milligrammes SO <sub>3</sub> per 100 sq. cms. Lead Peroxide
							Soluble in Carbon Bisulphide	Ash	Other Combustible Matter	Calcium	Chlorides	Sulphates	
January	4.72	4.47	S.W.	7.62	12.59	20.21	0.07	4.77	2.78	2.12	2.25	4.86	1.76
February	0.51	0.52	N.E.	9.24	11.14	20.38	0.08	6.39	2.77	2.29	1.33	4.08	2.15
March	0.56	0.625	S.E.	10.29	5.87	16.15	0.19	7.45	2.65	1.33	0.43	2.29	1.48
April	1.03	1.075	S.E.	8.71	8.72	17.42	0.14	6.17	2.40	1.33	0.58	3.25	1.14
May	0.39	0.39	S.W.	15.22	6.76	21.99	0.04	10.47	4.71	1.66	0.48	2.68	0.86
June	2.28	2.375	N.W.	14.36	14.51	28.87	0.15	10.05	4.16	3.51	0.76	3.85	0.74
July	4.33	3.775	S.W.	8.68	8.62	17.30	0.10	5.00	3.58	1.72	1.06	3.06	0.59
August	2.98	2.79	S.W.	8.12	10.21	18.33	0.13	5.80	2.80	1.86	1.13	2.78	0.50
September	1.82	1.805	S.E.	4.32	4.18	8.50	0.09	2.82	1.41	1.06	0.43	1.34	0.49
October	1.11	1.10	S.E. & S.W.	9.28	8.52	17.80	0.09	7.11	3.29	1.96	0.68	3.18	1.57
November	0.58	0.575	N.W.	10.60	12.13	22.73	0.04	7.11	3.45	2.58	0.65	5.12	2.08
December	2.41	2.435	S.W.	6.80	8.35	15.15	0.08	3.81	2.91	1.26	1.03	3.06	1.44

## FORT PITT SCHOOL

January	4.72	4.47	S.W.	5.93	11.14	17.06	0.12	4.02	1.78	1.72	1.99	3.88	1.67
February	0.51	0.52	N.E.	19.95	15.08	35.03	0.11	15.99	3.84	3.48	1.56	6.36	1.78
March	0.56	0.625	S.E.	11.40	9.01	20.41	0.19	8.44	2.77	2.02	0.51	3.43	1.17
April	1.03	1.075	S.E.	14.96	15.18	30.14	0.13	11.43	3.40	3.01	0.85	5.35	0.91
May	0.39	0.39	S.W.	12.70	8.42	21.12	0.07	9.44	3.19	1.96	0.51	3.13	0.77
June	2.28	2.375	N.W.	11.36	15.18	26.54	0.07	8.27	3.03	3.71	0.73	3.80	0.66
July	4.33	3.775	S.W.	14.02	19.88	33.90	0.09	9.25	4.68	4.77	1.13	3.99	0.46
August	2.98	2.79	S.W.	9.25	14.85	24.10	0.12	6.47	2.66	2.92	1.33	3.82	0.50
September	1.82	1.805	S.E.	4.60	5.50	10.19	0.06	3.22	1.41	1.19	0.40	1.88	0.49
October	1.11	1.10	S.E. & S.W.	10.49	12.39	22.88	0.08	7.60	2.81	3.02	0.85	4.34	1.10
November	0.58	0.575	N.W.	9.03	10.94	20.57	0.09	7.44	2.10	2.78	0.61	4.50	1.06
December	2.41	2.435	S.W.	9.90	13.26	23.16	0.06	7.03	2.82	2.72	0.99	4.81	1.44

## STROOD CEMETERY

January	4.22	4.47	S.W.	10.75	17.76	28.51	0.06	8.54	2.15	4.11	2.05	6.50	1.78
February	0.53	0.52	N.E.	5.72	7.03	12.75	0.07	4.35	1.30	1.49	0.78	2.65	2.01
March	0.69	0.625	S.E.	20.84	16.14	36.98	0.05	15.81	8.49	3.74	0.78	6.56	1.42
April	1.12	1.075	S.E.	19.20	13.32	32.52	0.05	15.08	4.08	3.78	0.78	6.13	0.95
May	0.39	0.39	S.W.	13.03	8.55	21.58	0.05	9.73	3.25	2.05	0.45	3.55	0.91
June	2.47	2.375	N.W.	10.80	12.46	23.26	0.03	8.16	2.61	2.08	0.63	4.01	0.69
July	3.22	3.775	S.W.	8.99	14.45	23.44	0.03	6.75	2.20	3.05	0.80	3.26	0.53
August	2.60	2.79	S.W.	10.82	17.90	28.71	0.04	8.47	2.31	4.11	1.19	4.15	0.49
September	1.79	1.80	S.E.	12.99	14.25	27.24	0.03	9.91	3.05	3.51	0.60	5.03	0.73
October	1.09	1.10	S.E. & S.W.	10.80	14.65	25.54	0.08	8.58	2.23	3.28	0.83	5.43	0.99
November	0.57	0.575	N.W.	8.68	10.67	19.35	0.06	6.89	1.44	2.55	0.56	4.44	1.85
December	2.46	2.435	S.W.	8.89	13.52	22.41	0.07	6.78	2.04	2.92	0.99	5.27	1.13



## CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1956

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Chatham.*

MR. MAYOR, MESDAMES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors and Public Health Department Depot for the year 1956.

The work of slum clearance continues to progress and the Hardstown Area was confirmed by the Minister during the year. This has been, for a long time, one of the black spots and its elimination previous to rebuilding seems now only a matter of time.

Progress has been made in the Ordnance Street Area and it is hoped that the Medical Officer of Health will be in a position to submit his representation to the Council during 1957. One of the war time scars will then be removed.

Staff shortage has retarded the application of the Food Hygiene Regulations to all food premises.

I would like to thank the members of the Council for their interest and many kind enquiries during my absence from duty through illness.

To the staff of the department I would like to offer my grateful thanks for their loyal support at all times and for the additional work undertaken by them.

Yours obediently,

T. HOWARD.

*Chief Public Health Inspector.*

10th July, 1957.

**SECTION E.****HOUSING****1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year**

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	931
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	3178
2. Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	336
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation (excluding clearance areas) ... ..	31
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	168

**2. Remedy of Defects During the Year without Service of Formal Notices**

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	145
--	-----

**3. Action Under Statutory Powers During the Year**

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	Nil.
2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) by owners ... ..	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil.
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	91
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners ... ..	60
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	1
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	37
2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	34
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2



2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. Nil.
- (e) Proceedings under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:—
- Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. 12

### **New Houses During 1956**

- (a) The total number of dwelling houses on plans submitted during 1956 was 66.
- (b) The total number of houses completed during 1956 ... 396
- (1) by Local Authority... .. 117
- (2) by other Persons ... .. 279

### **Re-Housing of Council House Applicants**

During the year, 36 removals were undertaken by this Department and in most cases fumigation was carried out to the household effects.

### **Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954**

Three certificates of disrepair under the above Act were issued.

### **Clearance Areas**

The following areas were represented by the Medical Officer of Health:—

#### **High Street Clearance Area**

Number of houses ... .. 4

#### **Solomons Terrace Clearance Area**

Number of houses ... .. 10

Number of houses demolished ... .. 19

### **Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 to 1954.**

The number of licensed slaughtermen on the register at the 1st January, 1957, was 14.

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

Three shop premises were licensed for the sale of Pet Animals.



## Rodent Control

No. of rats caught in dwelling houses	...	...	34
No. of rats caught in business premises	...	...	54
No. of rats caught at farms	...	...	63
No. of rats caught on Corporation property	...	...	29
			<hr/> 180

Poison treatment, according to the Ministry of Agriculture ~~and~~ Fisheries and Food instructions was carried out, and the estimated number of rats destroyed was 163. Of this figure, 34 carcasses were found and included in the total of 180.

The manholes of the foul sewers were test baited and treated during May and November. During test baiting 257 manholes were tested of which 33 showed bait-take. The number of manholes baited was 187 and of these 73 showed poison take.

The number of complaints of infestations received from local residents was 184.

# Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

During the year 133 samples of food and drugs and 2 milk bottles were submitted for analysis as per the following table:—

Description	No. of Samples		Results of Analysis		Genuine
	Formal	Informal	Adulterated		
			Formal	Informal	
Aspro .. ..		1			1
Baking Powder .. ..		3			3
Barley Sugar .. ..		1			1
Beef Steak with Gravy ..		1			1
Beef Suet .. ..		1			1
Butter .. ..		2			2
Cake Mixture .. ..		2			2
Cheese Spread .. ..		2			2
Coffee and Chicory					
Essence .. ..		2			2
Cornflour .. ..		1			1
Cough Mixture .. ..		1			1
Crab Paste .. ..		2			2
Cream .. ..		4			4
Curry Powder .. ..		1			1
Custard Powder .. ..		2			2
Dressed Crab .. ..		1			1
Dried Fruit (Currants) ..		1			1
Dripping .. ..		1			1
Dry Ginger Ale .. ..		1			1
Fruit Cocktail .. ..		1			1
Gravy Salt .. ..		1			1
Ground Rice .. ..		1			1
Halibut Liver Oil Capsules		1			1
Honey .. ..		1			1
Horseradish Sauce .. ..		1			1
Ice Cream .. ..		5			5
Jam .. ..		3			3
Lemonade Powder .. ..		1			1
Margarine .. ..		2			2
Marmalade .. ..		1			1
Mayonnaise .. ..		1			1
Milk .. ..	47	1			48
Milk Bottle .. ..		2		2	
Mustard .. ..		2			2
Orange Fruit Cup .. ..		1			1
Pasteurised Cheddar					
Cheese .. ..		2			2
Peanut Butter .. ..		3			3
Pearl Barley .. ..		1			1
Pearl Tapioca .. ..		1			1
Peas .. ..		1			1
Pepper .. ..		2			2
Pork Sausage Meat .. ..	1	1		1	1
Rice .. ..		1			1
Sage and Onion Savoury					
and Stuffing .. ..		1			1
Salad Cream .. ..		2			2
Semolina .. ..		2			2
Sponge Mixture .. ..		1			1
Steak & Kidney Pudding		1			1
Strained Beef Broth ..		1			1
Stuffing (Sage & Onion) ..		1			1
Sugared Coconut .. ..		1			1
Sunny Spread .. ..		1			1
Table Jelly .. ..		1			1
Tea .. ..		2			2
Tomato Juice .. ..		1			1
Tomato Ketchup .. ..		1			1
Tomatoes (Peeled) .. ..		1			1
Vegetable Soup .. ..		1			1
Vinegar .. ..		1			1
Vitacup Beverage .. ..		1			1
Totals .. ..	48	87	—	3	132

## Adulterated Samples

Upon being submitted for analysis, the undermentioned samples were found to be below the required standard, and the following results were obtained :—

- (i) **Pork Sausage Meat.** This was an informal sample which was deficient in meat content. A formal sample was taken which proved to be genuine.
- (ii) **Milk Bottle.** The bottle contained a yellowish brown deposit at the base and at one side of the nature of cement mortar. It was decided not to take any proceedings in this case but the attention of the vendor was drawn to the condition of the bottle.
- (iii) **Milk Bottle.** The bottle contained, adhering to its sides and base, four dark coloured bodies which resembled bird droppings. One was removed and examination in the laboratory confirmed this view. Proceedings were instituted against the dealer, but the case was dismissed.

In addition to the above, members of the public registered complaints regarding items of food purchased by them and proceedings were taken against four different firms of bakers with the following results :—

- (i) **Wire in bread.** Fined £5 os. od. with £1 10s. od. costs.
- (ii) **Cardboard in doughnut.** Fined £3 os. od. with 5s. od. costs.
- (iii) **Mice droppings on cakes.** Fined £10 os. od. with £3 3s. od. costs.
- (iv) **Cigarette end in bread.** Fined £5 os. od. with £2 2s. od. costs.

## Samples for Bacteriological Analysis.—Public Health Laboratory, Preston Hall, British Legion Village, Maidstone

The following samples were collected for analysis :—

### WATER

36 water samples were found to be “ Good Water.”

### MILK

202 samples of milk were taken with the following results :—

Class of Milk	Number of Samples Tested	Appropriate Tests	No. of Samples	
			Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	102	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	97	5
			98	4
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	100	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	96	4
			96	4

One sample of raw milk was submitted for biological examination and proved to be Tubercle negative.

### Gerber Tests.

Eight samples of pasteurised milk were screened in the office on Gerber Apparatus and found to be up to the prescribed standard.

**Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk)****Regulations, 1949-1953.**

The following licences were issued under the above regulations :

Sterilised ... ..	116
Sterilised (Supplementary)...	3
Pasteurised (Dealers')	9
Pasteurised (Dealers' Supplementary)	4
Pasteurised (Dealers' Pasteurisers)	3

**Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954.**

The following licences were issued under the above regulations

Tuberculin Tested (Dealers')	9
Tuberculin Tested (Dealers' Supplementary)	3

**Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-1954.**

119 Milk Distributors are registered under the above regulations. 5 Dairies are registered.

148 inspections of Dairies were made during the year.

**MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTIONS****Carcases Inspected and Condemedned**

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected ...	629	256	467	1733	4458
<b>All Diseases except Tuber- culosis—</b> Whole carcasses condemedned	1	—	—	9	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemedned ... ..	74	53	1	57	212
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ... ..	11.92	20.70	.21	3.81	4.96
<b>Tuberculosis Only—</b> Whole carcasses condemedned	—	5	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemedned ... ..	51	33	—	—	42
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	8.10	14.84	—	—	.94
<b>Cysticercosis—</b> Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demedned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemedned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

## Unsound Food Voluntarily Surrendered, 1956

The total amount of meat and other foods condemned was 10 tons 0 cwts. 3 qrs. 12 lbs.

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Total weight of meat condemned ...	6	6	0	8
Total weight fish condemned ...	—	2	0	22
Total weight tinned and other foods condemned ...	3	12	2	10

All condemned meat is collected and conveyed to the Sanitary Depot where it is dyed with a vegetable dye and disposed of to a manufacturing firm of animal by-products.

Tinned foods are punctured and buried along with the household refuse collection.

## Inspection of Meat and other Foods

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected since 1945:—

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
1945 ...	1425	990	1251	3313	1626	8605
1946 ...	1920	1065	3326	5079	1429	12819
1947 ...	1850	349	986	2709	684	5578
1948 ...	443	54	—	5	322	824
1949 ...	324	63	2	3	547	939
1950 ...	369	28	—	2	584	983
1951 ...	494	11	—	2	947	1454
1952 ...	350	12	35	2662	2317	5376
1953 ...	12	—	—	—	1857	1869
1954 ..	378	90	136	617	3728	4332
1955 ...	597	329	336	1473	5090	7825
1956 ...	629	256	467	1733	4458	7543

There is one slaughterhouse in the Borough and one Knacker Yard, for which licences have been granted.

## Food Premises

Bakehouses ...	8	General and Greengrocers' Shops	25
Butchers' Shops ...	35	Greengrocers' and Fruiterers' Shops ...	42
Butchers' and Provisions Shops	3	Grocers' Shops ...	70
Cafés and Restaurants ...	34	Grocers' and Greengrocers' Shops	24
Canteens ...	3	Hotels ...	2
Chemists' Shops ...	16	Millers ...	2
Cold Stores and Meat Importers	8	Off Licence Premises ...	9
Confectioners' Shops ...	18	Public Houses ...	82
Fish Shops (Wet) ...	6	Snack Bars ...	4
Fish Shops (Fried) ...	10	Sweets and Tobacco Shops ...	39
Fish Shops (Wet and Fried) ...	11	Stalls ...	6
Fish Shops (Wet) and Vegetables	1	Wine Merchants ...	3
General Shops ...	45		

## Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16.

### Ice Cream

3 premises are registered for the manufacture of ice cream and 169 for the sale and storage of ice cream.

## **Preserved Food**

There are 6 premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or preserved food.

## **Fish Offal**

Fish Offal collected and sold was 7 tons 15 cwts., and the amount received was £59 1s. 6d. (This amount includes a collecting fee.)

## **Disinfestation of Bedding, etc.**

Bedding from Council House Applicants fumigated	29
Furniture from Council House Applicants disinfected	29
Council house rooms fumigated for vermin	... 33
Rooms of other houses fumigated for vermin	... 62
Bedding disinfected for vermin	... ... 12
Beds or Parcels of Bedding destroyed	... ... 24
Infectious diseases—bedding fumigated	... ... 22
Infectious diseases—rooms disinfected	... ... 23
Wasps' Nests destroyed	... ... 2
Loads of Rubbish removed...	... ... 83
Miscellaneous items fumigated	... ... 4

## **Contagious Diseases of Animals Acts**

One case of Swine Fever was reported. The case was confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

## **Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951**

There are no Rag Flock Manufacturing premises within the Borough but three premises where filling materials are utilised are registered. These premises are satisfactory.

## **Cesspool Work**

The number of old houses connected to the Corporation Sewer during the year 1956 was 48. This means that some 50 leaking cesspools have been abolished.

838 complaints of choked drains and cesspool overflows were received, and it was found possible to clear 774 drains from obstruction. Overflowing cesspools made up the remainder of the complaints. The number of cesspools emptied was 64.

## **Camping Sites**

There are no Summer camping sites within the Borough. Under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, 35 individual licences were granted during the year. These licences were of a temporary nature.



## Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

The following Tables give details of the work carried out at factories, workplaces and premises used by outworkers.

### I. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	28	45	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	106	238	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	134	283	—	—

### II. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	3	3	—	3	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ... ..	2	—	2	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	1	—	1	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	2	2	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Totals ... ..	9	6	3	6	—

### III. OUTWORKERS.

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel—Making	88	—	—	—	—	—

#### Notices Served

During the year the following Notices were served:—

No. of Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	168
No. of Statutory Notices served due to 1956 Informal Notices not being complied with	...	...	...	...	...	77
No. of Statutory Notices served due to 1955 Informal Notices not being complied with	...	...	...	...	...	14
Total No. of Statutory Notices served during the year	...	...	...	...	...	91

The following were completed :—

No. of Informal Notices completed without a Statutory Notice having been served	...	...	...	...	...	145
No. of Statutory Notices completed	...	...	...	...	...	60
Total No. of Notices completed in year 1956	...	...	...	...	...	*205

\* This figure includes notices completed during the year, but served prior to 1956.

#### Visits Made by the Sanitary Inspectors During the Year

Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	73
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	106
Cesspool Emptying	...	...	...	...	...	61
Civil Defence	...	...	...	...	...	40
Cold Store	...	...	...	...	...	83
Contagious Diseases of Animals Acts	...	...	...	...	...	62
Council House Applicants	...	...	...	...	...	40
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	148
Drainage and Subsequent Visits	...	...	...	...	...	646
Drainage Tests (New)	...	...	...	...	...	101



Drainage Tests (Old) ... ..	53
Factories (P) ... ..	111
Factories (NP) ... ..	25
Fish Fryers ... ..	45
Food and Drugs ... ..	265
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 ... ..	556
Food Shops ... ..	277
Gypsy Encampment and Caravans ... ..	134
Houses (1st Visits) ... ..	595
Houses (Subsequent Visits) ... ..	1,624
Housing Act (1st Visits) ... ..	336
Housing Act (Subsequent Visits) ... ..	623
Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 ... ..	5
Ice Cream Vendors ... ..	62
Infectious Diseases ... ..	334
Knacker Yard ... ..	20
Milk (Special Designations) ... ..	171
Outworkers ... ..	38
Overcrowding ... ..	2
Pet Animals Act, 1951 ... ..	11
Piggeries ... ..	73
Refuse Heap and Accumulations ... ..	111
Restaurants ... ..	89
Rodent Control ... ..	31
Shops Act, 1950 ... ..	11
Slaughterhouses ... ..	475
Tuberculosis ... ..	20
Unsound Food ... ..	233
Verminous Premises ... ..	84
Water Samples ... ..	41
Miscellaneous ... ..	629
Total Visits ... ..	8,444

#### Nuisances Abated after service of Notice.

Accumulations of Refuse removed ... ..	2
Ceilings repaired ... ..	32
Cesspools filled in and drains connected to foul sewers ...	3
Chimney pots replaced ... ..	1
Chimney stacks repaired ... ..	8

Coppers repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	1
Doors or frames repaired	...	...	...	...	17
Drains of old buildings relaid	...	...	...	...	1
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Firegrates, stoves and kitcheners repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Firegrates, stoves and kitcheners renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	12
Flues repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	14
Gutters or downpipes cleared	...	...	...	...	9
Gutters or downpipes repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	57
Inspection covers provided	...	...	...	...	1
Interiors cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	75
Sinks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	8
Sink waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	16
Stair treads or steps repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	49
Walls repaired for dampness...	...	...	...	...	40
Windows reglazed	...	...	...	...	1
Window frames, fasteners, sashcords, sashes, sills repaired	...	...	...	...	54
W.C. pans renewed	...	...	...	...	7
W.C. seats or risers repaired	...	...	...	...	5
W.C. structures repaired or rebuilt	...	...	...	...	21
W.C. supply pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	7
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	19
W.C. flush pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	17
Yard gullies or grills repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	2
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	8